

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2616

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, YO

SUBJ: TRADE COMPLAINT - GOLODETZ

REFS BELGRADE 1895, 1683, 1289; STATE 83907, 76983

1. VOJISLAV MILJKOVIC, CENTROPROM DIRECTOR OF EXPORT AND IMPORT, TOLD US APRIL 22 THAT CENTROPROM HAS "COMPLETELY NEW AND DEFINITE" PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION OF GOLODETZ TRADE COMPLAINT. PROPOSAL HAS BEEN APPROVED BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S DIRECTORATE OF FOOD RESERVES, HE ADDED.

2. MILJKOVIC STATED THAT HE PREFERRED NOT TO PRESENT DETAILS OF PROPOSAL TO ANYONE EXCEPT GOLODETZ'S DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE. HE DISCLOSED, HOWEVER, THAT IT INVOLVES "SUBSTANTIAL COMPROMISE OFFER" REGARDING ORIGINAL GOLODETZ-CENTROPROM ARRANGEMENT - PARTICULARLY AS TO PRICE. SUBSTITUTE ARRANGEMENT INVOLVING CARGO OF SUGAR OWNED BY PROGRES (BELGRADE 1289) IS NO LONGER UNDER CONSIDERATION.

3. MILJKOVIC IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS NEW PROPOSAL WITH WICKING IN LONDON, BUT WOULD PREFER THAT WICKING COME TO BELGRADE APRIL 24 OR 25. DISCUSSIONS IN BELGRADE MORE DESIRABLE SINCE CENTROPROM WOULD BE AFFORDED OPPORTUNITY FOR RAPID CONSULTATION WITH DIRECTORATE OF FOOD RESERVES CONCERNING ANY COUNTERPROPOSALS WHICH MAY BE ADVANCED BY GOLODETZ.

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4. COMMENT: MILJKOVIC IMPRESSED US AS SINCERELY INTERESTED
IN EARLIEST AMICABLE RESOLUTION OF PROBLEM ON BASIS
ACCEPTABLE TO GOLODETZ. DESPITE GOLODETZ FILING OF
ARBITRATION CASE, HE IS HOPEFUL THAT COMPLAINT CAN BE
SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED WITHOUT GOING THROOUGH ARBITRA-
TION PROCEDURE.MILLER

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